



Bob Sahr, Chair
Dustin Johnson, Vice-Chair
Gary Hanson, Commissioner

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070
www.puc.sd.gov

Capitol Office
(605) 773-3201
(605) 773-3809 fax

Transportation/Warehouse
(605) 773-5280
(605) 773-3225 fax

Consumer Hotline
1-800-332-1782

November 21, 2006

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Karen Majcher
Vice President of the High Cost and Low Income Division
Universal Service Administrative Company
2000 L Street, NW – Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036

Universal Service Administrative Company
444 Hoes Lane
RRC 4A1060
Piscataway, NJ 20036

Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45,
Designation of Eligible Telecommunications Carriers; and Certification of Support
Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Section 54.313, CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 00-256

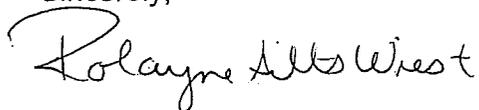
Dear Ms. Dortch and Ms. Majcher:

Pursuant to section 214(e)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended and 47 C.F.R. section 54.210, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (SDPUC) has designated SSTELECOM, Inc. (SST) as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) for the Qwest Corporation exchange of Milbank, South Dakota. This exchange is located in a non-rural service area.

In addition, the SDPUC hereby certifies that SST will use all federal high cost support only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with section 254(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. This includes High Cost Loop (HCL) support, Local Switching Support (LSS), High Cost Model (HCM) support, and high cost support received pursuant to the purchase of exchanges. SST's study area code is 399013.

Enclosed is the SDPUC's Order granting ETC designation and certification to SST. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rolayne Ailts Wiest". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

ROLAYNE AILTS WIEST
Commission Attorney

Enc.

cc: Mr. Ryan J. Taylor